

REMEDICATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR  
June 26, 2003

BUDGET UPDATE

As we have previously stated in the "RR News", the current version of the biennial budget bill eliminates up to 26.5 staff positions from the RR Program. This includes 7 positions required by the governor's original budget bill, plus additional reductions made by the Joint Committee on Finance. These are significant reductions to a program with about 110 employees statewide. Local governments and other customers who use RR Program services to help revitalize brownfields and to obtain approval of completed cleanups should be prepared to wait longer time periods for RR decisions in the next biennium. We are unable to respond to specific questions about how we will operate with these staffing reductions at this time. After the governor takes action on the budget bill, DNR will begin to devise a strategy.

4 WISCONSIN CITIES RECEIVE EPA BROWNFIELD GRANTS

Four Wisconsin cities, Oshkosh, Delavan, Richland Center, and Milwaukee, have been awarded federal brownfield grants for 2003. Oshkosh received \$400,000 to assess hazardous substances and petroleum in the Marion/Pearl and Riverside Park redevelopment areas and on the south side of the Fox River. Delavan has been awarded \$400,000 to clean up of two bulk petroleum storage areas in the Ann Street Railroad Corridor that are contaminated with petroleum, solvents, metals and PCBs. Richland Center will use its \$1,000,000 federal grant to establish a revolving loan fund and to offer local grants for cleanup activities in its old industrial area. The Milwaukee Redevelopment Authority has 3 new federal brownfield grants - \$400,000 for assessing hazardous substances and petroleum in the Aldermanic District, \$400,000 for cleanup activities at the King & Haley site and in the Airline Yards, and \$1,000,000 to set up a revolving loan fund for the Menominee Valley. For more information, please see EPA's web site at - [http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/03grants/03grants\\_a.htm](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/03grants/03grants_a.htm).

SURVEY OF MAYORS SHOWS REDEVELOPMENT BENEFITS IN JOBS AND TAXES

A survey by the U.S. Conference of Mayors shows that redeveloping brownfields could generate more than 575,000 new jobs and as much as \$1.9 billion annually in new tax revenue for cities nationwide. According to the survey, 153 cities have successfully redeveloped 922 brownfield sites totaling 10,594 acres, with \$90 million in new revenues to 45 cities and more than 83,000 jobs to 74 cities. Projections suggest that the potential for job and revenue creation is far greater. The most frequently identified impediments to redevelopment are lack of clean-up funds (82 percent), liability (59 percent), and the need for environmental assessments (51 percent). Three-quarters of respondents said that additional resources are needed to attract greater private-sector investment. Mayors have asked Congress for \$250 million in annual federal funding for brownfields assessment and cleanup. Congress is also considering creating new funding streams at HUD and Commerce to help prepare brownfields properties for redevelopment. The complete survey and report can be downloaded at <http://www.lgean.org/html/whatsnew.cfm?id=622>

HAZARDOUS WASTE REMEDIATION SEMINAR IN EAU CLAIRE JULY 25

Mark Gordon of the RR Program, in coordination with the Wisconsin

Groundwater Association (WGWA), will present a second training session on managing hazardous wastes that may be encountered during the investigation of contaminated sites. Mark is one of the principal authors of DNR's new "Guidance for Hazardous Waste Remediation", draft publication RR-705, available on our web site at [http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/cleanup/hazardous\\_waste.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/cleanup/hazardous_waste.htm). DNR's Waste Management and RR Programs developed this guidance jointly. It provides a road map to comply with NR 600 (Hazardous Waste Management), NR 700 (Investigation and Remediation of Environmental Contamination) and federal RCRA hazardous waste regulations at contaminated sites that include, or may include, hazardous wastes. The seminar in Eau Claire will be a repeat of the training that Mark gave in Fond du Lac on May 7 (also through WGWA). The Eau Claire session will be on Friday, July 25, from 10:00 to 2:30 (registration starts at 9:00 a.m.) at the Campus Holiday Inn in Eau Claire. The cost is \$40, including a buffet lunch. The registration form is on the WGWA web site at <http://www.wgwa.org/calendarevents.html>. WGWA is working with the Department of Commerce to offer continuing education credits to certified tank site assessors and certified tank remover/cleaners for this training.

#### ANALYTICAL REQUIREMENTS DO NOT VARY FOR VOLUNTARY CLEANUPS

Some consultants have asked about Wisconsin requirements for sample collection, preservation and analysis at voluntary cleanup sites. There are no technical differences between voluntary cleanups (when the party conducting the cleanup is not legally responsible for the cleanup) and cleanups where a responsible party is required to take action by law. All site investigation and cleanup confirmation sampling that will be reviewed by DNR must follow the requirements of the NR 700 rule series. While environmental consultants for both voluntary and required cleanups are free to employ any field screening techniques that they find useful, they must use NR 700 methods when they will be asking for a DNR decision.

#### 74% NATURAL ATTENUATION CLOSURE RATE FOR PECFA SITES

The RR Program has examined its efforts to support PECFA cost containment. Our Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment Tracking System (BRRTS) shows that 74% of the PECFA site closures approved by DNR since January, 2000, have used the flexible closure provisions in Chapter NR 726, Wis. Admin. Code (Case Closure). These provisions allow natural attenuation of groundwater contamination to complete the cleanup after the state has formally approved the cleanup actions, making the numeric standards in Chapter NR 140, Wis. Admin. Code applicable at some time in the future. Chapter NR 746 allow soils saturated with petroleum to remain in place also, requiring treatment or removal only if people can come into direct contact with the contamination. These provisions, used together, allow natural attenuation to complete the remedy for petroleum contamination in both soil and groundwater.

#### CONSULTANT LIST REVIEW

Consultants may again update their information for our "Environmental Services Providers List", publication RR-024. This "name, address & phone number" listing is intended to help responsible parties locate consultants that do environmental investigation and cleanup in different parts of Wisconsin. It is not an endorsement or certification of those on the list. Publication RR-024 is on our web

site at <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/archives/pubs/RR024.pdf>. Consultants may contact Megan Clemens at [Megan.Clemens@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:Megan.Clemens@dnr.state.wi.us) or at 608-261-4391 to add or amend their business entry on the list.

#### DNR COMPLETES NEW PERMIT PRIMER

DNR has a new permit primer web page to help businesses identify permits that they may need in order to comply with environmental requirements. The primer covers all major permitting areas, including air, solid & hazardous waste, water supply, storm water, waterways and wetlands. The web page includes a question-and-answer system with pollution prevention tips, DNR contact people, definitions, costs and time required to obtain permits, examples, frequently asked questions, links to material safety data sheets, links to the U.W.-Extension Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center and to the Department of Commerce Small Business Clean Air Assistance Program and permit applications at: [www.dnr.state.wi.us/permitprimer/](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/permitprimer/). The permit primer is not an on-line application system, but DNR specialists are available to answer questions that the primer can not. For more information, please contact Laurel Sukup at 715-365-8936 or [Laurel.Sukup@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:Laurel.Sukup@dnr.state.wi.us).

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